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By: **Delegates Oaks and Redmer**  
Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2003  
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants - Treatment -**  
3 **Number of Patients**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that, notwithstanding the standards of practice adopted  
5 for the practice of physical therapy and limited physical therapy by the State  
6 Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, physical therapists may not evaluate,  
7 treat, or both, more than an average of a certain number of patients within a  
8 certain time period and physical therapist assistants may not treat more than  
9 an average of a certain number of patients within a certain time period; and  
10 generally relating to the number of patients a physical therapist and physical  
11 therapist assistant may treat within a certain time period.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article - Health Occupations  
14 Section 13-206  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article - Health Occupations**

20 13-206.

21 (a) In addition to the powers set forth elsewhere in this title, the Board may:

22 (1) Adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this title;

23 (2) [Adopt] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, ADOPT  
24 standards of practice and a code of ethics for the practice of physical therapy and  
25 limited physical therapy; and

26 (3) Pay, in accordance with the State budget, any necessary expense that  
27 relates to the referral of an alleged violation of the criminal provisions of this title.

1 (b) In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this title, the Board shall:

2 (1) Keep a list of the name and address of each licensed physical  
3 therapist and licensed physical therapist assistant;

4 (2) Present evidence of any alleged violation of this title to the State's  
5 Attorney of the county where the alleged violation occurred; and

6 (3) Adopt rules and regulations that govern the use of a physical therapy  
7 aide by a licensed physical therapist.

8 (C) (1) A PHYSICAL THERAPIST MAY EVALUATE, TREAT, OR BOTH EVALUATE  
9 AND TREAT, NOT MORE THAN AN AVERAGE OF FOUR PATIENTS PER CLINICAL  
10 TREATMENT HOUR, EXCLUDING GROUP THERAPY.

11 (2) A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT MAY TREAT NOT MORE THAN AN  
12 AVERAGE OF FOUR PATIENTS PER CLINICAL TREATMENT HOUR, EXCLUDING GROUP  
13 THERAPY.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 2003.